

FEBRUARY 27, 1839.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CUSHMAN, from the Committee on Commerce, reported the following bill :

A BILL

To regulate the compensation of certain officers of the customs for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authori-
4 zed to pay to the collectors, deputy collectors, naval officers,
5 surveyors, and their respective clerks, together with the
6 weighers, gaugers, measurers, and markers, of the several
7 ports of the United States, out of any money in the Treas-
8 ury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as will give to the
9 said officers, respectively, the same compensation in the year
10 one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, according to the
11 importations of that year, as they would have been entitled
12 to receive, if the act of the fourteenth of July, one thousand
13 eight hundred and thirty-two, had not gone into effect: *Pro-*
14 *vided, That in no case shall the compensation of any other*
15 officers than collectors, naval officers, surveyors, and clerks,
16 whether by salaries, fees, or otherwise, exceed the sum of

17 fifteen hundred dollars each per annum ; nor shall the union
18 of any two or more of those offices in one person, entitle him
19 to receive more than that sum per annum : *Provided, fur-*
20 *ther,* That the said collectors, naval officers, and surveyors,
21 shall render an account quarterly to the Treasury, and the
22 other officers herein named or referred to, shall render an
23 account quarterly to the respective collectors of the customs
24 where they are employed, to be forwarded to the Treasury,
25 of all the fees and emoluments whatever by them respective-
26 ly received, and of all expenses incidental to their respec-
27 tive offices ; which accounts shall be rendered on oath or
28 affirmation, and shall be in such form and supported by such
29 proofs, to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, as
30 will, in his judgment, best enforce the provisions of this
31 act, and show its operation and effect : *Provided, also, That,*
32 in the event of any act being passed by Congress, at the pres-
33 ent session, to regulate and fix salaries or compensation of
34 the respective officers of the customs, then this act shall
35 operate and extend to the time such act goes into effect, and
36 no longer : *Provided, however,* That the Secretary of the
37 Treasury be authorized to extend to the collectors at such
38 other ports where a surplus of emoluments has been account-
39 ed for and paid into the Treasury in the year eighteen hun-
40 dred and thirty-two, the privilege granted to the collector of
41 New York, to take effect from the first day of January last.